

**SANTA MARGARITA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
SCRIP PROGRAM
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

1. **What is scrip and is participation in the program mandatory?**
Scrip is gift cards, contributions from Ralphs Community Contributions Program, and eScrip. Participation in the SMCHS scrip program is voluntary. It is a program that SM offers its parents for the opportunity to lower their tuition or support their students' sports or clubs as well as support the school's general operating fund.
2. **When is scrip sold?**
Scrip is sold at the front office on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 7:30 a.m.– 9:30 a.m. and on Wednesday from 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. during the school year and summer by our parent volunteers.
3. **How do I pay for scrip?**
We accept cash and checks payable to “SMCHS” for the purchase of scrip; no credit cards, please.
4. **May I send an order/payment in with my student?**
Yes, your student may drop off the order form and check/cash before school Tuesday through Friday and pick it up at the end of the school day. Our parent volunteer will fill the order during his/her shift. If we do not have sufficient scrip to fill your order, our volunteer will call you to see if you would like to substitute the scrip for another or if you would like to wait until that scrip is replenished.
5. **How does the purchase of the gift cards as well as participation in the Ralphs Community Contributions Program and eScrip lower students' tuition?**
 - a. **Gift card sales** – SM purchases gift cards at a discount and sells them at face value. SM splits that discount with you; half to your student's tuition account and half to the school's general operating fund. For example, we purchase Cinnamon Productions gift cards at a 20% discount and sell it to you for face value. If you purchase \$100 in Cinnamon Productions gift cards, the profit is \$20 of which \$10 would be credited to your student's tuition and \$10 to the school's general operating fund. The specific discount percentages vary from gift card to gift card; 1.5% to 23%. Go to www.smhs.org/Parents/Scrip for a list of gift cards offered in the SM scrip program and their discount percentages.
 - b. **Ralphs Community Contributions** – Sign up your Ralphs Club Card to support Santa Margarita Catholic High School at www.Ralphs.com. Our NPO #84441. Every time you make a purchase and swipe your registered Ralphs Club Card, a percentage of your purchase is contributed to the school and we split that percentage with you 50/50: Up to \$200 of eligible purchases per month = 1%, \$200.01 - \$350.00 = 2%, \$350.01 - \$500 = 3%, and over \$500 = 4%. Ralphs sends a contribution check and report to the school quarterly. You must renew your commitment annually at Ralphs.com by September 1 to continue to receive contributions.

- c. **eScrip** – Go on www.escrip.com and register your credit card(s), ATM card, and Vons/Pavilions Club card. Every time you make a purchase at an eScrip vendor (merchant list is posted on their website), a percentage of your purchase is given to the school and we split that percentage with you 50/50. When you shop at Vons/Pavilions and swipe your registered club card, a percentage of that purchase is given to SM: eligible purchases of up to \$300 per month = 1%, from \$300 - \$500 = 2%, from \$500 - \$600 = 3% and over \$600 = 4%. eScrip deposits electronic fund transfers to the school's account monthly. Once you sign up for eScrip, it does take about 5-6 months for the first contribution to show up so sign up sooner than later. Some local vendors participating in the eScrip program are Claim Jumper and Lucille's Smokehouse BBQ; both of which give 5% of purchase back to SM when you pay the check with a credit card or ATM card that you have registered on www.escrip.com. You must renew your commitment to Vons/Pavilions annually online at eScrip.com by November 1 to continue to receive contributions.

6. **Can anyone sign up their Ralphs Club Card and/or their Vons/Pavilions Club Card, credit/ATM card on eScrip.com to give credit for my student's tuition?**

Yes, you may have family and friend supporters sign up their cards at Ralphs.com and/or eScrip.com. ***IMPORTANT: Please contact Catherine Hassen at 949-766-6004 or hassenc@smhs.org with the name of the supporter and your student's name so that their contributions may be credited to your student's tuition account.***

7. **Am I able to get double credit if I purchase Vons/Pavilions gift cards from the school to pay for my grocery purchase AND swipe my eScrip registered Vons/Pavilions Club Card?**

Yes. If you purchased \$500 of Vons/Pavilions gift cards (4%) from the school, your student's tuition would be credited \$10.00 (school's operating fund would receive \$10.00) and if you swiped your registered Vons/Pavilions Club Card for \$500 of eligible purchases in one month you would receive an additional \$7.50 (school's operating fund would receive \$7.50) for a total of \$17.50 credit to your student's tuition.

8. **Do the scrip gift cards have expiration dates or are fees deducted from the face value if not used by a certain time?**

None of the gift cards have expiration dates nor are fees deducted from the face value of the card.

9. **South Coast Plaza gift certificates are listed on the scrip list? May I use them to make a purchase at any store in South Coast Plaza?**

South Coast Plaza gift certificates are honored at more than 280 stores and restaurants at South Coast Plaza as well as the Orange County Performing Arts Center, The Westin South Coast Plaza and South Coast Repertory. South Coast Plaza gift certificates make the perfect all-occasion gift!

10. **May I order higher denominations of the gift cards offered in the SM scrip program?**

Yes, many of the gift cards in the scrip program can be purchased in different denominations. Contact Catherine Hassen at 949-766-6004 or hassenc@smhs.org to inquire about availability and lead time for special orders.

11. **We own our own business and would like to give our employees a grocery store gift card at Thanksgiving/Christmas. Is there a limit as to the number of gift cards we can order? What is the lead time for special orders and do I need to pay for the order in advance?**

There is no limit as to the number of gift cards you may order. We carry Albertsons, Smart and Final, Stater Bros., and Vons/Pavilions gift cards. See's Candy gift certificates also make great employee and client gifts! Payment is required when you place a special order and the standard turnaround time for ordering and receiving the scrip is about a week but may be longer during the Christmas season.

12. **When is scrip credit given to my student's tuition?**

Scrip credit from gift card purchases as well as contributions from Ralphs Club Card and eScrip are credited to student tuition accounts as follows:

Credit between July 1 and October 31 is reflected on the December tuition statement.

Credit between Nov. 1 and February 28 is reflected on the April tuition statement.

Credit between March 1 and June 30 is reflected on the August tuition statement.